

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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FOR SCIATT

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: COOPERATIVE OCEANOGRAPHIC EXPERIMENT TO BE
CONDUCTED IN PACIFIC OCEAN

REF: 3/22 TELECON BETWEEN ANDREWS (NASA) AND SIMONPIETRI

1. THIS IS IN REGARD TO THE COOPERATIVE OCEANOGRAPHIC EXPERIMENT TO BE CONDUCTED IN PACIFIC OCEAN WEST OF BAJA CALIFORNIA BETWEEN MARCH 22 AND MAY 5, 1973, AS PART OF U. S. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION COASTAL UPWELLING EXPERIMENT.

2. OCEAN TRUTH WILL BE ACQUIRED BY UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SHIP " THOMAS G. THOMPSON" UNDER COORDINATION OF DR. JAMES C. KELLEY, DEPARTMENT OF OCEANOGRAPHY, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, SEATTLE. (THE SHIP HAS BEEN APPROVED TO ENTER MEXICAN WATERS BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE 511166.)

3. THE SHIPBOARD EXPERIMENT WILL INCLUDE A COOPERATIVE U. S.
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UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON/ MEXICAN CONACYT EFFORT IN WHICH MEXICAN SCIENTISTS WILL BE FULLY INVOLVED IN DATA ACQUISITION AND ANALYSIS.

A. A NASA CONTRACTOR CESSNA-402 AIRCRAFT (IDENTIFICATION NUMBER N-7885 Q) WILL OVERFLY THE SHIP " THOMAS G. THOMPSON" IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS TO COLLECT AIRCRAFT OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA. IT IS PROPOSED THAT THESE MEASUREMENTS BE CONTINUED IN MEXICAN WATERS DURING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PERIODS TO COMPLEMENT THE SHIP DATA ACQUIRED THROUGHOUT THE CRUISE: MARCH 28- APRIL 5; APRIL 12-23; APRIL 28- MAY 5.

B. CONVERSELY, IF CONEE WOULD LIKE TO UTILIZE ITS REMOTE SENSING AIRCRAFT FOR THESE FLIGHTS EITHER ALONE OR TO ACQUIRE DATA TO COMPARE WITH CESSNA ACQUIRED DATA, THIS WOULD BE WELCOMED. INSTRUMENTS ONBOARD WOULD BE A THERMAL RADIOMETER TO MEASURE WATER TEMPERATURE AND A WATER COLOR RADIOMETER TO MEASURE CHLOROPHYL CONTENT. AIRCRAFT DOES NOT CONTAIN CAMERAS.

C. OBJECTIVE OF EXPERIMENT IS TO MAKE REMOTE MEASUREMENTS OF OCEAN TEMPERATURE AND CHLOROPHYL LEVELS, AS POTENTIAL INDICATORS OF MARINE BIOLOGY.

D. IF CONACYT AND/ OR THE MEXICAN SPACE COMMISSION (CONEE) WOULD BE INTERESTED IN INCLUDING SUCH OVERFLIGHTS, WE WOULD BE PLEASED TO DO SO AND TO PROVIDE COPIES OF DATA TO MEXICO FOR SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SHIP- ACQUIRED DATA.

E. WE WOULD ALSO BE PLEASED TO INCLUDE A MEXICAN SCIENTIST OR OBSERVER ON FLIGHTS.

F. IT IS PROPOSED THAT CESSNA AIRCRAFT STAGE OUT OF SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. CREW WOULD INCLUDE PILOT, NASA PROJECT MANAGER, AND UNIVERSITY OCEANOGRAPHER.

G. MEXICAN PARTICIPANT COULD EITHER BOARD AT SAN DIEGO OR AIRCRAFT COULD LAND FOR BOARDING AT ANY AIRPORT ON BAJA PENINSULA, SUCH AS LA PAZ, WHERE 100 GRADE FUEL IS AVAILABLE AND RUNWAY LENGTH IS AT LEAST 3000 FEET.

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4. SHOULD GOM BE INTERESTED IN THIS COOPERATION, PLEASE

ADVISE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ALLOW FINAL SCHEDULING OF
AIRCRAFT OVERFLIGHTS. ROGERS

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